

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 04680 031728Z

46

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 NEA-06 CIAE-00

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1899

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4680

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: NATO 25TH ANNIVERSARY

1. AT PERMREPS LUNCH OCTOBER 2, SYG RAISED THE SUBJECT OF NATO'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY, AND INDICATED THERE HAD BEEN SOME TALK OF HOLDING THE CELEBRATION IN TURKEY. TURKISH AMBASSADOR ERALP SAID GOT WOULD PREFER NOT TO HOST THE ANNIVERSARY FOR LACK OF A SUITABLE BUILDING.

2. ASKED THE U.S. AND BELGIAN GOVERNMENTS' REACTIONS TO HAVING THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN ONE OF THEIR COUNTRIES. HE BELIEVED THERE SHOULD NOT BE MORE THAN TWO BIG NATO MEETINGS A YEAR, AND THAT THEREFORE THE ANNIVERSARY SHOULD BE COMBINED WITH THE SPRING MINISTERIAL MEETING, POSSIBLY IN MAY, WITH A RECEPTION AND MILITARY EVENT. HE SAID WE MUST FIRST KNOW WHERE THE ANNIVERSARY WILL BE, AND THEN PLAN HOW TO HOLD THE CELEBRATION.

3. LUNS ALSO THOUGHT THAT IF PRESIDENT NIXON CAME TO EUROPE IN MARCH, NATO MIGHT COMBINE THE SPRING MINISTERIAL, THE ANNIVERSARY AND THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT INTO ONE EVENT IN BRUSSELS.

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PAGE 02 NATO 04680 031728Z

4. BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE INTERJECTED THAT THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WAS NO REASON FOR THE PRESIDENT TO DELAY A VISIT. LUNS AGREED, SAYING: "NO, IT WOULD BE ONLY IF HE WERE NOT COMING UNTIL NEXT YEAR." RUMSFELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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